

ELECTRIC PLANT COST A PROBLEM

Amount Appropriated to Date Is \$443,900, and More Will Be Needed.

MAY REACH ONE MILLION

That, at Least, Is Opinion of Some Councilmen Who Take In Value of Site.

What is the proposed municipal electric plant going to cost? Many members of the Council and other citizens and taxpayers are asking the question, and there seems no answer. To date the Council has appropriated in bond issues and from current funds, a grand total of \$443,900, and the plant is not yet ready for use, although Engineer Trafford reports that enough of it will be ready to supply the ornamental lights for Broad Street before Christmas. Then there are pending before the Council various lighting plants, which will entail an expense of at least \$100,000 more, and at each meeting further resolutions are introduced. No provision has been made for street lighting in Washington, D. C., and no appropriation has been made for lighting alleys from the municipal plant; there has been no plan mapped out for lighting the City Hall, public schools, fire engine houses, police stations, markets or other public buildings. The Water Department is now asking for \$12,000 to install another electric water pump at the Lee District standpipe, power for which will be generated by steam, not from the new plant, and no provision has been made as was promised for increasing the water pressure for fire protection down town or on Church Hill, by installing standpipes with pumps run

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with power from the municipal plant. Valuable Municipal Rights. In estimating what the plant should cost, the fact should be kept in mind that to begin the movement the city turned over to the Commission on Electricity the Old Pump-house, with its plant, dam and riparian rights, used since 1832 in pumping water for city purposes. The riparian rights, dam and land, have been assessed as in excess of \$250,000, the new assessment made public Monday night, placing the value of the riparian rights, dam and building, without machinery, at \$250,000. Adding this to the \$443,900 already appropriated, it shows that the plant and its standpipes represent a value of \$693,900, so that it is not a far cry to fulfilling the predictions of some Councilmen that the plant will cost one million before it was completed.

Engineer Trafford's original estimate to the Council was that the plant proper would cost \$250,000 complete, and have an ample capacity, and that the water-pumping machinery and transmission line would cost \$100,000. So a bond issue of \$350,000 was voted. The question was asked of Mr. Trafford on the floor of the Board of Aldermen, when the bond issue was being voted on, if that would be all of the cost, and he replied that it would be ample. He also stated that his estimates showed that the city, besides pumping 10,000,000 gallons of water daily without cost, could furnish street lights in Richmond for \$25 per year each, as compared with the \$54.75 being paid the street railway company at that time, and it was on that statement that the Council last week voted.

Many Extra Items. Before the plant was half-completed the Commission on Electricity came forward, asking for an additional appropriation of \$55,000 for the erection of poles and wires throughout the city, and the appropriation was made. It being obvious that an electric plant was of little use without a distribution system, then came Broad Street merchants, asking for special rights for that important business thoroughfare, and \$20,000 was appropriated for installing them. Appropriations for the plan to make and its water-pumping annex, therefore, amount to date to \$435,000. An appropriation of \$900 was made years ago to pay Mr. Trafford for preliminary engineering work, and later he was employed for \$6,000 to make the drawings for the plant, and still later paid a fee of \$1,000 for supervising the construction. Making special appropriations on his account of \$7,500. Besides this he received, according to a special account, \$2,000, 3 per cent on the cost of the plant for supervising construction, so that his fees as supervising engineer will amount to \$11,500 when all the present authorized has been finished, to \$13,050, or continuing in the payment made for preliminary engineering, of course, increase accordingly. In addition to this a special appropriation of \$5,000 was made to pay a Washington firm for checking the plans. The total for plans and supervision, therefore, to date is \$21,550; total for plant on all accounts.

Work Not Yet Done. A resolution is now before the Finance Committee to appropriate \$21,000 for a system of poles and wires in Washington Ward to light South Richmond from the municipal plant. Resolutions are also pending to extend the ornamental lighting on West Broad Street, to cost \$30,000, and on Jefferson Avenue in the East End to cost \$4,000. It has been estimated that the probable cost of new wiring and fixtures for the City Hall, such as would enable the lighting of that building from the new plant, would cost \$11,000. Main Street merchants are clamoring for ornamental lights, similar to the one on Broad Street, at a cost of \$20,000, and a resolution is pending looking to lighting alleys with incandescent, rather than gas, lights, at a probable cost for poles of wires, of from \$40,000 to \$50,000. There is also pending a resolution asking preliminary estimates of the cost of lighting all parks from the city plant. The first light has not yet been turned on. An appropriation of \$5,000 has been recommended to operate the plant for the balance of the fiscal year. It is understood that Mr. Trafford will act as superintendent for the first year at a salary yet to be fixed, in order to demonstrate the accuracy of his estimates. Alderman E. Douglas Richardson, son of the Mayor, and Chairman of the Committee on Electricity, is a candidate for the permanent position of superintendent, and his friends claim that he has the votes pledged in the Council to elect him a year hence. He will shortly resign from the Board in order to declare his candidacy.

Lectures Postponed. The two lectures to be delivered before the Richmond Howitzers by Captain Jennings C. Wise, the battalion adjutant, have been postponed to the latter part of November.

New Artillery Corporals. At the regular weekly drill of the Richmond Howitzers, held last night, Captain William M. Myers announced the appointment of the following privates to be corporals: Sidney B. Cook, Waverly S. Tucker, Charles A. Saunders, John C. Fink. They are required to report within sixty days to the examining board.

Barn and Contents Destroyed. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.)—Washington, D. C., October 25.—News reached this city today of the burning last Saturday night of a large barn and stockhouse of A. C. Hollowell, who lives near the town of Aurora, this county. Several bales of seed cotton, about 1200 worth, and a quantity of farming utensils and farming implements, were totally destroyed. He managed to save his stock, together with \$120 in gold, which he had secreted in the building.

Will Be Matron of Honor. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.)—Washington, D. C., October 25.—Mrs. Lahr, wife of Dr. Louis C. Lahr, of Richmond, where she has gone to be matron of honor at the wedding tomorrow of Miss Mary Evelyn Hough, daughter of Mrs. John James Hickok, to Hamilton Godwin Boykin.

Captain McGeehee Injured. Captain W. C. McGeehee, conductor on the James River division of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, is confined to his home as a result of injuries he received on Sunday afternoon when he was thrown from his train. No bones were broken, and McGeehee is resting comfortably.

'BEN HUR' COMING HERE NEXT MONTH

Spectacular Production Booked by Academy for Three Nights.

Klaw & Erlanger's colossal spectacular presentation of Lew Wallace's "Ben Hur" is to be the offering at the Academy of Music November 14, 15 and 16. Contracts to that effect were signed in New York yesterday by Mr. Wells and the firm of Klaw & Erlanger, the owners and managers of this great work.

"Ben Hur" is well known in Richmond. This awe-inspiring drama from the pen of the distinguished soldier-statesman-author was staged at the Academy of Music about six years ago. It created a tremendous sensation at the time. From every nook and corner of the State thousands journeyed to witness the production in Richmond. The staging was just as complete and careful as marks the engagements at the National Theatre, Philadelphia; the National Theatre, Washington; the Academy of Music, Baltimore, and the New Amsterdam Theatre, New York City. The success scored on that occasion and the many who were unable to secure seats have often solicited Resident Manager Leo Wise to have Mr. Wells book the play again. This Mr. Wells often tried, but the fact that there is only one company in this country interpreting the Wallace work, and that the bookings are arranged to cover all sections of the United States and Canada, prevented Klaw & Erlanger from selecting a date until now.

Like on the previous visit, Mr. Wise intends to make the staging of "Ben Hur" the notable event of the theatrical season. The fact that it is a powerful drawing card in inducing visitors to journey to a city where it is being enacted has caused Mr. Wise to arrange an advertising campaign of publicity to cover the State for a radius of 100 miles. Special excursions will be fixed to cover the dates of November 15, 16 and 17.

Speaking of the company and production to a Times-Dispatch reporter

HAPPY HUSBAND IN INDIANA

Mrs. Cook Takes Advice From Her Husband and Makes Him Happy

Evans Landing, Ind.—Mrs. A. L. Cook, of this place, has made her husband (and herself) happy by taking his advice. She writes: "For five years I suffered with awful pains. After I married I grew worse. I had to stay in bed and could not do my work. My husband urged me to try Cardui, and to please him I did. Soon I began to feel better. I kept on taking it. Now I am able to do my work, and am much stronger than ever before. My husband is the happiest man in the State."

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Many Men Would Not Do Without Posaam, Which Soothes and Heals.

While the application of posaam, the skin-soothing cream, after shaving, is a minor use, such as for pimples, the complexion, etc., shavers have found it a revelation, as it does for abrasions, roughness and severe skin eruptions what it does in all manner of skin difficulties—heals and cures in a few hours. Posaam, a great antiseptic and positive value enables it to tone up the skin as no toilet preparation possibly could. Any infection, such as barbers' itch is quickly cured, for posaam's primary work is the rapid healing of such serious skin diseases as eczema, acne, tetter, salt rheum, etc. "Posaam" is the best and quickest cure for the skin seen in my twenty-five years' experience in the barber business," says Frank J. Kammerer, Racine, Wis.

A sample of posaam (mailed free) will tell the whole story. Write for it to the Emergency Laboratories, 32 West Twenty-fifth Street, New York City. Posaam is sold in two sizes (trial, 50 cents; regular jars, \$2) by all druggists, particularly Tragles.

Last evening, Mr. Cooke, general representative for Klaw & Erlanger, who is in Richmond, said: "The popularity of 'Ben Hur' eclipses the record of every religious-historical spectacle in the annals of the stage world, and there are several reasons why it should. It is the largest touring organization in America, numbering about 200 people, which includes an orchestra especially arranged to accompany the impressive score of the Sullivan Kelley. Eighty-sixty-foot baggage cars are required to transport the scenic, mechanical and electrical equipment from one city to another. For the horses and camels used in the spectacle, two Arms palace stock cars are required."

The department of the company has a superintendent. All are answerable to C. F. Towle, manager for Klaw & Erlanger. The same careful attention is given the presentation of the play

MAYOR DECLINES TO APPROVE TWO LAWS

City Attorney Holds That Council Can Pass Side-walk Measures, But Executive Objects on Ground of Policy—Effective Without His Signature in Five Days.

In a written opinion delivered to Mayor Richardson yesterday morning, City Attorney Pollard holds that it is within the province of the City Council to grant permits for minor obstructions to the sidewalks. The specific cases which the Mayor had laid before the City Attorney were resolutions granting a barber pole permit to Murphy's Hotel; allowing a house at the southwest corner of Eighth and Franklin Streets, which encroached three feet on the sidewalk, to remain, and allowing the Richmond Realty Corporation to maintain a thirteen-inch step in front of the building at the southwest corner of Tenth and Broad Streets. The City Attorney holds in effect that where such obstructions are of a minor character and do not affect any considerable part of the passageway or prevent ordinary traffic, and where the property owner will sign an agreement to save the city harmless by reason of any damages that may occur, such as injury to a person stumbling over such obstructions, it lays within the province of the Council to grant such permit, and becomes a matter of public policy for the Council to determine whether it should be granted or refused.

Returns Without Signature. In view of the opinion rendered, the Mayor decided not to veto the three resolutions in question, but since he is unwilling to approve of any policy which seems to encourage the obstruction of the streets for private gain, he returned them to City Clerk Ben T. August without his signature. Under the charter they will become a law within five days without further procedure, though without the approval or veto of the Mayor.

The Mayor has under advisement the resolution adopting a design of a seal for the city, it being his desire to study more closely into the records as to what was the original seal of the city before the design is approved.

The Mayor returned to City Clerk Ben T. August yesterday with his signature the following ordinances and resolutions, which are now in effect:

New Street Car Franchise.

An ordinance to provide for the sale, in the usual manner, of a franchise for a street railway line, from Thirty-first and Marshall Streets, along Marshall to Thirty-fifth, thence by Miles Ravine to the National Cemetery Road, and thence to a loop in Fulton, connecting with the tracks of the Richmond and Henrico Railway. The franchise will be put up and sold in the manner prescribed by the Constitution, it being the plan to change the original proposed route of the Richmond and Henrico line, which had been projected to come down Thirty-fifth to Fulton, through Chimborazo Park to Fulton.

Ordinance ratifying contract between the city and the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company in regard to the location and maintenance of a sewer on the east side and second Street, near the tracks in Thirty-fifth, from Main Street to Williamsburg Avenue.

Ordinance providing for the construction of a sewer in North First Street, 150 feet north of Jackson Street, to cost \$200, at the expense of the Right Rev. A. Val de Vyver, Bishop of Richmond, for the use of a Catholic institution.

Ordinance ratifying contract between the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company and the city in regard to the location and construction of a sewer under the right of way, 150 feet east of the waste gates at Haxall, Va., an improvement designed to protect the sources of the city water supply.

As to Liquor Licenses. Ordinance amending the City Code in regard to the granting by the Hustling Court of liquor licenses, changing the time from thirty to ten days for the filing of certified checks and prescribing the method of application for license.

Ordinance granting permission to the Rennie Dairy Company to erect a brick stable in rear of 611 North Sixth Street and 612 North Seventh Street, under certain conditions.

Ordinance amending and consolidating into a code the general ordinances of the city of Richmond, in effect on September 1, 1910.

Resolution authorizing allegations for a number of street improvements at the expense of abutting property owners.

Resolution authorizing the Committee on Streets to receive designs and bids for a reinforced concrete bridge over James River, at the intersection of the James River Bridge, the roadway to be sixty feet in width, and the cost

In each city visited. It doesn't matter whether you witness 'Ben Hur' in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Boston or Richmond, the performance is always the same. Klaw & Erlanger rely on no local help in handling the scenic or lighting equipment. Competent stage mechanics are carried to insure a perfect performance on every occasion.

Teachers' Institute Arranged. Spotsylvania, Va., October 25.—A teachers' institute, under the supervision of Professors E. H. Russell and A. B. Chandler, will be held here tomorrow, and it is expected will be largely attended. A similar meeting was held to-day at Partlow, in this county.

Wright-Rowe. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Timonium, Md., October 25.—Professor Arthur Davis Wright, division superintendent of schools of Henrico county, and Miss Hayme Morris Rowe, the second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jefferson Rowe, were married at 5 o'clock this afternoon at the home of the bride, in Victoria Avenue. The Rev. H. H. Potts, of Richmond, performed the ceremony. Miss Louisa Rowe was maid of honor. Mrs. Thomas Rowe was matron of honor. The bridesmaids were Misses Janet Duvall, of Farmville; Nancy Wright, of Richmond, and Miss Snell, of Richmond. The bride and groom were given a reception last night by Mr. and Mrs. Rowe. Following the marriage, Professor and Mrs. Wright left for a visit to New York and Boston, after which they will make their home in Richmond.

Among the out of town guests here for the wedding were Mrs. M. E. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Taylor, Miss Wright, Jack Wright, Professor Jackson Davis, Elbert, of Richmond; Miss Flossie Rawlings, of Fredericksburg; Professor Koonitz, of Williams and Mary College.

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branch of the Dooley sewer, extending from Sycamore and Dance Streets along Dance to Rowland, along Rowland to Wallace, along Wallace to Meadow, along Meadow to Williams, along Williams to Ritchie, along Ritchie to Cary, Colorado Avenue, branch of the Dooley sewer, in Colorado Avenue from Hampton to Sumner Street, along Sumner to Winder, along Winder to South Lombardy, along Lombardy to Beverly, and along Beverly to Allen Avenue.

Apportioning from the bond issue for sewers \$38,458 for construction of the following sewers: In Sycamore Street from Ashland to Dance; in Dance Street from Sycamore to Davis Avenue; in Davis Avenue from Dance to Main; in Main Street from Davis Avenue to Sycamore; in Taylor Street from Davis Avenue to Sycamore Street.

Apportioning from the bond issue for sewers \$38,458 for construction of the following sewers: Branch of the Dooley sewer from Hampton and Colorado Avenues through William Byrd Park to the south side of Ashland and Sycamore Streets; sewer from Sycamore and Ashland Streets along Sycamore to Dance, along Dance to Davis Avenue, along Davis to Beverly, and for a sewer from Beverly on Davis Avenue to Main Street.

Apportioning from the bond issue for sewers \$1,990 for a sewer in Twenty-first Street from Carrington to Q Street, and along P Street from Twenty-first to Tulip Street.

Contracts Approved.

Approving award of contract made by the Committee on Streets to H. Driscoll & Co. for construction of a sewer in Bloody Run Ravine from near Thirty-first and Franklin Streets to Williamsburg Avenue, at an approximate cost of \$7,538.

Approving award of contract made by the Committee on Streets to J. B. Chesapeake & Co. for construction of a sewer from the intersection of Thirty-fourth and Leigh Streets, along Leigh to Thirty-fifth, thence through the Miles Ravine to the National Cemetery Road, at an approximate cost of \$14,475.40.

Approving \$500 for sewer connections for indigents.

Authorizing the Committee on Streets to grade Hanover Avenue from Shepherd to West Street, and Shepherd Street from Grove Avenue to Stuart Street, property owners having signed releases from damages by reason of changes in grade.

Authorizing the Committee on Streets to grade Chaffin Street between the Boulevard and Mulberry Street, the work to be done at the cost of the Grounds and Buildings Department, charged to William Byrd Park.

Authorizing the Committee on Streets to grade an alley south of Main Street, between Harley and Plum Streets, to cost \$850, property owners having signed release.

Main Stem of Dooley Sewer. Approving the award of contract made by the Committee on Streets to Stamper, Ragland & Co. for building the main stem of the Dooley sewer, along Virginia Avenue from the intersection of Hampton and Colorado Avenues, across and under the tracks of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway and the James River and Kanawha Canal, to James River, at an approximate cost of \$80,489; time, 450 working days.

Approving \$1,000 for repairs and alterations to the Washington Ward Jail.

Approving \$3,000 for repairs to the James River Free Bridge, to be expended under the direction of the Committee on Streets.

Approving \$500 for entertainment of a convention of military surgeons of the United States, which meets in Richmond October 31-November 4.

Authorizing the Superintendent of the City Gas Works to attend a con-



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vention of gas engineers, at a cost not to exceed \$95.

Transferring \$674.92 from account of playgrounds to grounds and parks, to be used for improvements in Chimborazo Park.

Appropriating \$2,800 for the balance of the present fiscal year for maintenance of manual training and kindergarten work in the public schools. Transferring \$1,200 from a special appropriation for schools to the general expense fund of the City School Board.

Appropriating \$950 for street cleaning to meet deficit on fiscal year occasioned by expenses in Washington Ward.

Authorizing payment of bill of the Richmond Pattern and Structural Iron Works for fire escapes on public school buildings, amounting to \$437.07.

Resolving approving the bonds of forty city officers, filed with the city clerk.

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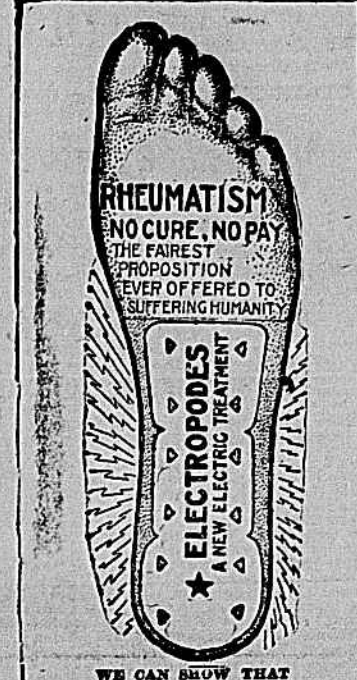
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